

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053928

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, NATO
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIES ON THEATER NUCLEAR
FORCES ASPECTS OF NUNN REPORT

REF: USNATO 1223

1. FURTHER TO MISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON NEXT STEPS
IN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ALLIES ON THEATER NUCLEAR
REPORT, BEING PREPARED IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC LAW 93-365
(NUNN AMENDMENT), SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILL SEND THE
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ATOMIC ENERGY)
DONALD R. COTTER TO EUROPE TO CONSULT WITH THE ALLIES.

2. IN INFORMING ALLIES OF THE CONSULTATIONS, YOU
SHOULD PROPOSE THAT NPG PERMREPS MEET ON MARCH 18, WHEN
COTTER WILL BE PREPARED TO CIRCULATE TO THE ALLIES
THE TALKING POINTS HE WILL USE, TOGETHER WITH A GENERAL
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OUTLINE OF THE REPORT TO CONGRESS. MOREOVER, ALLIES

SHOULD BE AWARE THAT:

-- DUE DATE FOR THE REPORT IS APRIL 1. WE ARE COMMITTED TO MEET THAT DEADLINE.

-- THE PRECIS WHICH COTTER WILL PRESENT WILL REFLECT CURRENT STATUS OF REPORT.

-- COTTER WILL RETURN FOR HIS SECOND SESSION WITH NPG PERMREPS MARCH 25. AT THAT TIME, HE WILL BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE ALLIES WITH AN ADVANCE COPY OF THE REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS.

-- OUR PURPOSE IN THIS FINAL STAGE OF CONSULTATIONS, AND IN CIRCULATING WRITTEN MATERIAL ON MARCH 18, IS NOT TO INVITE DRAFTING SESSION OR LINE-BY-LINE COMMENT. RATHER, IT IS TO ASSURE ACCURATE AND UNIFORM UNDERSTANDING BY THE ALLIES ON THE BROAD OUTLINES OF THE REPORT AND TO UNDERScore OUR DESIRE TO CONSULT ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS CRITICAL TO ALLIANCE SECURITY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE SUBSTANTIVE VIEWS OF ALLIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER MARCH 18 TO BE PROVIDED TO USNATO.

3. ALLIES SHOULD BE REMINDED, AS APPROPRIATE, THAT THE REPORT IS ONE BY THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO CONGRESS IN RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC LEGISLATION. WE WILL TAKE ALLIED VIEWS, PITCHED AT A POLICY LEVEL, CAREFULLY INTO ACCOUNT IN PREPARATION OF FINAL VERSION OF REPORT.

4. IF MISSION DEEMS IT USEFUL, COTTER WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET IN THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 17 WITH UK AND FRG PERMREPS FOR PURPOSE OF CONSULTING BILATERALLY ON THE REPORT.

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